

## **CHEMICAL APPLICATION PESTICIDES, HERBICIDES, AND FERTILIZERS**

### **1. PREPARATION**

- a. Make sure your state Chemical Handlin Certification is complete and up-to-date before handling any chemicals.
- b. Calibrate fertilizer and pesticides application equipment to avoid excessive application.
- c. Use pesticides only if there is an actual pest problem.
- d. Time and apply the application of fertilizers, herbicides or pesticides to coincide with the manufacturer's recommendation for best results ("Read the Label").
- e. Know the weather conditions. Do not use pesticides if rain is expected within a 24-hour period. Apply pesticides only when wind speeds are low (less than 5 mph).

### **2. PROCESS**

- a. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for mixing, application, and disposal ("Read the Label").
- b. Do not mix or prepare pesticides for application near storm drains, preferably mix inside a protected area with impervious secondary containment (preferably indoors) so that spills or leaks will not contact soils.
- c. Employ techniques to minimize off-target application (e.g. spray drift, over broadcasting) of pesticides and fertilizers.

### **3. ACTIONS**

- a. Sweep or blow pavements or sidewalks where fertilizers or other solid chemicals have fallen, back onto grassy areas before applying irrigation water.
- b. Triple rinse pesticide and herbicide containers, and use rinse water as product. Dispose of unused pesticide as hazardous waste.
- c. Always follow all federal and state regulations governing use, storage and disposal of fertilizers, herbicides or pesticides and their containers ("Read the Label").

### **4. DOCUMENTATION**

- a. Keep copies of MSD sheets for all pesticides, fertilizers and other hazardous products used.
- b. Record fertilizing and pesticide application activities, including date, individual who did the application, amount of product used and approximate area covered.